

## Verification exclusions

34 CFR 668.54(b)

### Spouse unavailable example

Ursula is attending Lem Community College, and her application is selected for verification. She provided her husband's information on the application but now explains that her husband has recently moved out, and she can't locate him. Ursula also gives Lem some documents to show that she's tried to locate her husband. Lem determines that Ursula doesn't need to provide verification of her husband's tax and income information, but she still needs to verify her own information.

### Suspension of the DRT and the effect on verification

Because the IRS has suspended the use of the DRT due to security concerns, schools may use a signed paper copy of the 2015 tax return for verification in lieu of the DRT or a tax transcript. Also, they are not required to collect documentation verifying nonfiling from the IRS or any other tax authority, though the other requirements for nonfilers as explained on page 83 still apply.

These allowances will apply to the 2017–2018 FAFSA processing and verification cycle and the remainder of the 2016–2017 cycle. See [DCL GEN-17-04](#).

### Acceptable documentation

The documentation required for verification of 2017–2018 application data is in the *Federal Register* published on April 1, 2016. See also [DCL GEN-16-07](#) for guidance about verifiable information for 2017–2018.

- Death of the student. You don't have to continue verification if you made an interim disbursement and the student died before verification was completed. You cannot make any additional disbursements, except for FWS funds already earned, to any of the student's beneficiaries. You cannot originate or disburse his Direct Subsidized Loan or consider any interim disbursement you made of Pell, Perkins, or FSEOG funds or provisional FWS employment to be an overpayment. See *Chapter 2 of Volume 5*.
- Not an aid recipient. The student won't receive Title IV aid for reasons other than a failure to complete verification. This includes being ineligible for that aid and withdrawing without receiving it.
- The applicant is eligible to receive only unsubsidized student financial assistance. However, students selected for V4 or V5 verification should complete it in accord with the answer to Question DOC-Q18 on the webpage cited in the margin of page 79.
- Applicant verified by another school. The student completed verification for the current award year at another school before transferring. Her FAFSA data must be the same as it was at the previous school, and you must get a letter from that school stating that it verified her application and providing the transaction number of the pertinent valid ISIR.
- Post enrollment. The student was selected for verification **after** ceasing to be enrolled at your school, she does not intend to reenroll **for the award year**, and all (including late) disbursements were made.

Unless you have reason to believe it is inaccurate, you don't have to verify the reported FAFSA information of the parents of a dependent student if any of the following apply (including in cases where there is only one parent):

- Both of the parents are mentally incapacitated.
- Both parents or the custodial parent has died.
- They are residing in a country other than the United States and can't be contacted by normal means.
- They can't be located because the student does not have and cannot get their contact information.

Unless you have reason to believe it is inaccurate, you don't have to verify the reported FAFSA information of the spouse of an independent student if any of the following apply:

- The spouse has died.
- He is mentally incapacitated.
- He is residing in a country other than the United States and can't be contacted by normal means.
- He can't be located because the student does not have and cannot get his contact information.